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## REVIEWS.

**Ashley, Percy.** *Modern Tariff History.* Pp. xxiii, 367. Price, \$3.00. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1904.

Any history which has its inception in an object that makes it secondary as history to a main purpose, is apt to arouse the reader's distrust, both as to the temper and the content of the work. The main purpose in the present instance seems to be the enlightenment of the British public upon the probable experience before it, as inferred from the experience of France, the United States and Germany,—in case Great Britain should abandon her present tariff policy. Whether or not the prospect is alluring, the reader may judge for himself, for the historian is discreetly conservative in the drawing of conclusions. Judging, however, from the prefatory note by Mr. R. B. Hal-dane, the lesson of history lays heavy emphasis upon the conservative policy.

The tariff history of France and of Germany certainly needed to be written for the English and American reader, and the author is to be commended for having put before us the main facts in concise form. That of Germany is particularly illuminating, and though the author does not claim to rely so much on his own researches as upon those of others, he has done much in stating very clearly the conflicting interests and the grounds taken by the defenders thereof.

With regard to the tariff history of the United States, the works of Taussig, Brentano and Stanwood, not to mention the host of magazine writers with whom Mr. Ashley shows his familiarity, have covered the field somewhat fully if not exhaustively, and the only added merit in this connection is to be found in the recentness of the work, and the fact that it is from a viewpoint outside of ourselves.

Mr. Ashley's style is remarkable for a certain freshness and vitality which makes his book easy reading in spite of the abstruseness of the subject. Taking it altogether the book is well worth while.

J. E. CONNER.

*Washington, D. C.*

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**Bernheimer, Charles S. (Ed.).** *The Russian Jew in the United States.* Philadelphia: The John C. Winston Company, 1905.

Recognizing the power for harm in the selfish prejudgment of the later emigrants to this country, Dr. Bernheimer, in 1900, planned a broad study of one of the largest and perhaps the most unique and distinct of the constituents of the great influx. The purpose is to truly portray the social, religious, industrial and political life of the three large Russian-Jewish communities in the United States.

The editor has adopted the unusual plan of a mosaic book—for each of his twenty-eight collaborators has done a distinct part of the work independently of the thought of the others. As we observe the mosaic we first see in partial cross-section the different race elements, then a fleeting yet clear insight to those mystic closes of the congregations of these co-religionists who have come successively to our land. We are given the prospect of a